

7. (Amended once) The method of claim 6, wherein said sodium salt is present in a concentration of at least 1 mM.

13. (Amended once) A method of attaching a protein to a surface of a layered silicate, said method comprising the steps of:

covalently attaching said protein to an arginine tag, and  
contacting said arginine tag with said surface of said layered silicate,  
wherein said protein is selected from the group consisting of a DNA binding protein, a molecular motor, an actin filament, a microtubule, a myosin filament, an actin binding protein, and a myosin filament binding protein.